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> DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3 B 2 B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

DPT FOR EUR/WE, EUR/SOV, PA/PRS - PARIS FOR POL, USIS AND DAO/LEG

JUSTICE FOR RYAN

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

BT

TAGS: FR, PGOV, SHUM (BARBIE, KLAUS) SUBJECT: THE BARBIE TRIAL - ROUND TWO

REF: LYON 0332 AND PREVIOUS

1. SINCE THE VERDICT WAS RETURNED AND KLAUS BARBIE WAS SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT FOR CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, THE BARBIE AFFAIR HAS ESSENTIALLY DISAPPEARED AS A TOPIC OF CONVERSATION AND A FOCAL POINT OF MEDIA ATTENTION IN LYON. HOWEVER, AS NOTED REFTEL, DURING THE COURSE OF THE TRIAL ADDITIONAL CHARGES WERE FILED AGAINST BARBIE. ACCORDING TO A LONG ARTICLE IN THE LYON FIGARO OF OCTOBER 12, THOSE CHARGES HAVE BEEN UNDER REVIEW, AND THE MATTER IS NOW PROCEEDING TO AN ACTIVE STAGE.

2. THE NEW CHARGES WERE BROUGHT ON BEHALF OF MEMBERS OF THE FAMILIES OF BRUNO LARAT AND ANDRE LASSAGNE, TWO RESISTANCE LEADERS ARRESTED BY BARBIES GESTAPO ALONG WITH JEAN MOULIN AND OTHERS IN CALUIRE. A SUBURB OF LYON. ACCORDING TO THE DOSSIER, LARAT AND LASSAGNE WERE TORTURED IN LYON AND THEN IN PARIS BEFORE BEING DEPORTED TO

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BUCHENWALD. THESE ACCUSATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO FORM THE BASIS OF CHARGES AGAINST BARBIE FOR CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. BUT IT IS THE MUCH LARGER ISSUE OF WHO BETRAYED JEAN MOULIN AND THE OTHERS, BY TIPPING OFF BARBIE TO THEIR MEETING, WHICH HAS TROUBLED FRANCE OF OVER FORTY YEARS. A FORMER MEMBER OF THE RESISTANCE, RENE HARDY, WAS TWICE ACQUITTED IN POSTWAR TRIALS OF BETRAYING MOULIN - RESULTS WHICH SATISFIED NO ONE. HARDY DIED LAST APRIL, JUST WEEKS BEFORE BARBIES FIRST TRIAL. NEVERTHELESS IT WAS FELT BY MANY THAT THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CALUIRE RAID, OR AT LEAST A NEW VERSION OF IT, WOULD COME OUT IN THE TRIAL DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY CHARGED WERE ALL AGAINST JEWISH VICTIMS, NOT AGAINST FRENCH RESISTANCE COMBATTANTS. BARBIES UNEXPECTED REFUSAL TO ATTEND THE TRIAL HAD THE EFFECT OF CONFINING THE CASE TO THE CHARGES PRESENTED TO A MUCH GREATER DEGREE THAN ANYONE ANTICIPATED. THESE NEW CHARGES, FILED LATE IN THE FIRST TRIAL, MAY BE SEEN AS A REACTION TO THAT LOST OPPORTUNITY. BY CHARGING CRIMES ARISING DIRECTLY FROM THE CALUIRE RAID, THOSE WHO WANT TO KNOW WILL HAVE THEIR BEST, AND LAST, CHANCE TO FIND OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO JEAN MOULIN.

- 3. THE DOSSIER HAS BEEN IN THE HANDS OF JACQUES HAMY, SENIOR JUGE DINSTRUCTION OF LYON. ACCORDING TO LYON FIGARO, HE HAS REVIEWED ALL FILES AND ARCHIVES AND IS STARTING TO QUESTION WITNESSES. THIS HAS A SIMILAR EFFECT TO THE GRAND JURY PHASE OF A CRIMINAL PROCEEDING IN THE U.S., ALLOWING THE PROSECUTION TO PROBE FOR EVIDENCE AMD ASSESS ITS CASE WHILE STILL IN THE INVESTIGATIVE STAGE, BEFORE PROCEEDING TO TRIAL. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF HOW LONG THIS PROCESS MAY LAST NOR HOW MANY WITNESSES MAY BE QUESTIONED. THE FIRST WITNESS WAS BARBIE HIMSELF. HE REFUSED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS, THOUGH HE DOES NOT ENJOY ANY FIFTH AMENDMENT PROTECTIONS AGAINST SELF-INCRIMINATION.
- 4. COMMENT. AT THIS POINT IT IS HARD TO ASSESS THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF A SECOND BARBIE TRIAL. BARBIE IS SEVENTY-FOUR YEARS OLD AND HAS ALREADY RECEIVED THE MAXIMUM PENALTY UNDER FRENCH LAW LIFE IMPRISONMENT. A SECOND TRIAL WOULD HAVE NO VALUE FROM A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FATE OF JEAN MOULIN REMAINS AN HISTORICALLY COMPELLING MYSTERY IN FRANCE. THAT GROUND HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY COVERED, HOWEVER, IN THE TWO TRIALS OF RENE HARDY AND ELSEWHERE. OBVIOUSLY, THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING THESE NEW CHARGES HOPE THAT BARBIE CAN BE GOADED INTO TELLING WHAT HE KNOWS ABOUT THE CALUIRE AFFAIR, AND THUS PROVIDING THE MISSING PIECES OF THE PUZZLE. THIS ASSUMES THAT BARBIE WILL TALK (AN UNWARRANTED ASSUMPTION AT THIS POINT) AND IF HE DOES, THAT WHAT HE SAYS WILL BE WORTHY OF BELIEF.
- 5. FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE REPORTED. VALERGA

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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